

3 Will you vote for a non-political Council of Public Instruction, a Council to be composed of representative men specially appointed to superintend Schools, Academies, and Colleges, and that will not sacrifice the educational interests of the Province for the sake of the temporary advantage of party?

4. Do you believe that our School Law was intended to provide free and unsectarian schools for our children, and will you resist all tampering with the spirit of the law?

By order of the Halifax School Association.

M. H. RICHEY, President.
EDWIN D. KING, Sec'y.

For the Christian Messenger.

TO THE LIBERAL READERS OF THE "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER."

Dear friends,—

The Baptist church and congregation at Lower Stewiacke are trying to build a new house of worship, a want greatly needed. We are few in number and low in purse. Will not you help us? We know that many calls are made on you at present. Yet a small portion from your "coffers" will not be missed by you, and will, we hope, greatly enrich us. We have the frame up and boarded in. Contributions will be thankfully received by Deacon E. C. Banks or the subscriber. In behalf of the interested.

J. MEADOWS.

Lower Stewiacke, Dec. 5, 1874.

For the Christian Messenger.

Dear Mr. Editor,—

The opinion was expressed in our hearing the other day that no one would respond to the appeal recently made on behalf of the new Academy building—that it would only serve to call attention to the matter, and prepare the way for a more direct personal solicitation. But this of itself would be a sufficient reason for putting it forth. It is only fair that the public should be made fully acquainted with the object proposed, before being asked to assist in its attainment. But more than this was intended by the Committee. They wished, indeed, to show how pressing is the existing necessity for enlarged boarding accommodation, but they expected that their appeal for help to meet such necessity would meet with some response. Nor have they been disappointed. One "true friend of our Institutions" has remitted the sum of twenty dollars, and this encourages us to believe that others will do likewise. Are there not in our churches one hundred persons who could each remit a like sum? Are there not five hundred others who could send us five dollars a piece? And then are there not a thousand remaining who might spare a dollar each? This would give five thousand five hundred dollars, or half the entire cost of the building. But why ask these questions? Who does not know that ten times as much money as this might be raised every succeeding year without overtaxing the resources of the denomination? The whole sum required to erect and fully equip the new building—thus giving additional accommodation to nearly a hundred students—amounts to only a quarter of the cost of a first class ship; and yet from several Baptist ship-yards one such ship is built and put to sea every year. So that the means of the Baptist body being abundant, all that should be required to induce them to co-operate liberally and heartily in such endeavors, is a well grounded assurance of their good and praiseworthy character. And has not every member of our churches this assurance? Are old prejudices against education still lingering around which require to be combated and slain? Do any fear that the number of the educated will finally exceed in undue proportion the number of the uneducated, and human society consequently lose its proper balance and harmony? Is there a man who yet fails to see that it is for his own advantage even to assist in educating the children of his neighbor rather than they should grow up in ignorance? Is knowledge deemed by any to be incompatible with piety, or detrimental to noble achievements? Is it still a question whether the arguments usually adduced in support of an educated ministry are sound and conclusive? If so—if these questions demand an affirmative answer, then plainly before asking for money to build and endow Colleges, we should strive to ascertain whether it is really desirable to have them or not. But it is hard to believe that one in a thousand of the

Baptists of these Provinces needs to be enlightened on these points. All must perceive that our Institutions of learning are bound by a thousand ligatures to our entire denominational work:—that the important labors at home and abroad to which Providence seems to be inviting us must largely depend for accomplishment on their adequate sustentation. And more than this. It must be apparent to not a few that the largest share of the ultimate control of the country must come into the hands of those who make the best provision for the intellectual and moral training of the people. Our brethren of other religious bodies understand this, and are straining every nerve to make their respective colleges as efficient as possible. We wish them every success. If it shall come to appear that a better education may be had at Sackville or Dalhousie than can be obtained at Acadia, then even

Baptist parents will feel inclined to patronize these Institutions rather than their own. But if, on the other hand, the Baptists by liberally endowing and equipping their Institutions of learning, demonstrate to the country that a better training may be obtained at Wolfville than elsewhere, they may expect that the youth of even other religious persuasions will throng their educational Halls. For education cannot be denominationalized. The parent who would do the best thing educationally for his son or daughter will send them to the best school, whatever its denominational complexion. A good deal has been said and written of late touching the matter of a Provincial University. Some would settle the question by legislation, others by what has the appearance of scheming; if the Baptists are awake to the exigency and opportunity of the hour, they will settle it by merit.

But what bearing has all this upon the point in hand? Just this:—that the Baptist public being thoroughly convinced, as we believe, of the great desirableness of larger and better school accommodation at Wolfville, and having besides ample resources at their command, will generously and promptly forward their contributions for the new building now in course of erection.

And judging from present appearances, other buildings will soon have to follow this. Probably twelve months hence all the additional accommodation which this will afford will be required for the young men alone, when a similar structure will be needed for the young women. At the beginning of the present term it was hoped that a class of nearly twenty would be prepared to matriculate next June, but now the prospects are that the number will be at least thirty. Then already there are upwards of thirty others who are aiming for College a year from June. At this rate there will soon be over a hundred students in College, when another building will be required for them. But, as already observed, the resources of the denomination are adequate, and when help is needed, it will doubtless come.

The number now in attendance at the Academy is over one hundred, and applications from nearly half a hundred more are in. Where they will find board and lodging is hardly yet clear.

For those who have not the information, it may be stated that the new building is forty by eighty feet, four stories high besides the basement. The upper story will be finished with French roof. It is now boarded in and the roof nearly finished. When completed it will be the handsomest building of the kind in the Province. In its erection the Committee are proceeding on the most economic scale consistent with the actual requirements of the case, as the Governors of the College will be convinced when the accounts are submitted. It is for this reason they are dispensing as much as possible with paid agents in the collection of funds, and falling back on general appeals, that every dollar contributed may count one for the main object.

And now the committee would repeat their appeal. They do hope none will content themselves with merely reading it, but that each according to his or her ability will remit us a donation. One brother has sent us twenty dollars; are there not ninety-nine others who will do the same. And may we not look for smaller sums by the hundred? Most gladly will their receipt be acknowledged in your valuable columns. The time is drawing near when building materials must be paid for, and when the contract for finishing the building should be let.

Will the Pastors please bear in mind the collection on the first Lord's day in January, and seek to make it equivalent to twenty-five cents for each member of their respective churches? And will the deacons please co-operate and the sisters lend a helping hand? Then at our next Convention, not only will the building be completed, but we shall have the sweet satisfaction of knowing that it is paid for.

For the Committee,
D. M. WELTON.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N.S., DECEMBER 9, 1874.

HALIFAX.—In Granville Street Church the number of the disciples of Christ is being multiplied, and great grace is resting on the people. Large numbers are attending to hear the gospel—and some are receiving the truth as it is in Jesus. The pastor is strengthened and encouraged. On Sunday last at the close of the morning service, previous to the observance of the Lord's Supper, he gave the right hand of fellowship to thirty who had been recently received. These were of various ages and conditions; several of them being the complement of the households of which they were members, so that now it may be said of them as it was of the jailor at Philippi, "he rejoiced, believing in God, with all his house." The allusions made by the pastor in this welcoming them to fellowship to the individual experience of the persons so received, rendered the occasion one of much variety and interest. Impressions were produced on many minds that will not easily be effaced from the memory.

In the evening was another time of refreshing, in which the gospel was ably and faithfully preached by the pastor Rev. E. M. Saunders, from our Lord's parable of the sower; after which the gospel was exhibited, in the ordinance of baptism, as it was administered to eleven believers who had recently received the grace of God. Having previously made known their faith to the church, they now by this act, did so to the world according to the command of the Lord Jesus as given in Holy Scripture. Others have intimated that they are seeking the Lord and are desirous of walking in his ways.

Rev. Mr. Saunders also attended at the mission church South Brunswick Street in the afternoon and gave an address to a large congregation there. Meetings are being continued during the present week. Rev. W. E. Hall was expected to preach last night and this evening.

In the Fort Massey Presbyterian Church, on Sunday evening, a large concourse of people assembled to hear the farewell sermon from Rev. J. K. Smith who is returning to the church of which he was formerly the minister, at Galt, Ontario. In the afternoon he took leave of the Sabbath School and received affectionate addresses from the young people.

The congregation of St. Pauls in this city, has, during the past week, suffered the loss of two of its most valued members, leaving a sad blank in many hearts and households.

On Thursday evening the Curate, Rev. R. WARREN, M. D., died, after a very short illness, from which however he had suffered a good deal for some time past, but had not been prevented performing his usual ministerial duties. He preached on the previous Sunday and was out on Tuesday. He was but 35 years of age, and has left a widow and three children, to mourn his departure.

On Sunday, Miss ISABELLA COGSWELL, one of the most benevolent and devoted christian ladies of our city died after a somewhat protracted illness, probably induced by her personal efforts on behalf of the sick. Miss Cogswell was a daughter of the late Hon. H. H. Cogswell, and, having abundance of means, expended them very largely in charitable objects, and for the amelioration of sorrow and suffering. She herself labored most diligently and systematically, yet in a most unassuming manner, in several ways, and gave employment to a number of persons in making clothing for the poor. Although a member of the Church of England, yet she fully recognized all other christian bodies, and entered into co-operation with them in every way she could to benefit her fellow-creatures, especially in raising women to a participation of culture and christian knowledge. Another in-

stitution has just come into being, largely by her fostering care—the Young Women's Christian Association. It had but just matured its constitution and so was preparing for operation to benefit young women and provide for their mental and religious improvement. It will not be easy to find one to supply the place she has so well filled for so many years past.

THE ELECTIONS.—The Nomination of Candidates for the Local House of Assembly will take place to-morrow, Thursday the 10th, instant in the various counties of the province. There being so short a time since the issue of the writs some doubt has existed as to who would be the contestants that would receive nomination. Indeed it seems even now somewhat uncertain in some counties whether or not there will be any contest. The following we believe is a correct list of the names so far as they have reached the city. We are not quite sure that the classification into supporters of the Government and Opposition will be found correct in every particular:—

THE * indicates members of the former House.

HALIFAX.—Gov't.—P. C. Hill, Edward Farrell, Donald Archibald.*

Opp.—W. J. Almon, M. J. Griffin, Robert Sedgwick.

COLCHESTER.—Gov't.—Fred. Putnam and Thomas Morrison.*

Opp.—John B. Dickie and W. A. Patterson.*

PICTOR.—Opp.—S. Holmes,* Hugh Cameron,* Alex. McKay.*

LUNenburg.—Gov't.—James Eisenbaur,* W. B. Desbrisay.*

GUYSBOROUGH.—Gov't.—W. H. Wylde,* C. M. Franchville.*

Opp.—Stewart Campbell.

VICTORIA.—Gov't.—D. McCurdy.

Uncertain.—Mr. Fraser and Mr. Kidson.

CAPE BRETON.—Alonso White,* Hon. Mr. Ferguson, G. H. Dobson, A. G. Hamilton.

KINGS.—Gov't.—Henry Shaw(t) and Leander Rand.

Opp.—D. B. Woodworth,* and W. A. Porter.

CUMBERLAND.—Gov't.—Amos Purdy.

Opp.—E. Vickery, Chas. Townsend.

Independent.—Mr. Black.

ANTIGONISH.—Gov't.—Hon. D. McDonald.

Opp.—John J. McKinnon and Joseph B. McDonald.*

DIGBY.—The names mentioned are Messrs. Donette, J. C. Wade, Colin Campbell, and M. Robichau.

QUEENS.—Messrs. Freeman,* N. Mack, G. T. Moore, C. Allison, and A. Hemmison.

YARMOUTH.—Messrs. Gayton,* Corning, and Ryerson.*

SHELBURNE.—Hon. Mr. Robertson* and Mr. Johnston.*

*Dr. H. W. Shaw of Kentville wishes us to say that the mention of his name taken from the *Chronicle*, in our last issue, was a mistake. He has no desire for such distinction.

"HEROES AND JUDGES" from the Lawgiver to the King, by Rev. Franklin Johnson, D. D.

This is the fifth volume of Notes on the Scripture Lessons and embraces the International Series from January to July, 1875. The notes are prepared expressly to meet the wants of Sunday School Teachers, embracing Commentary, Bible Dictionary and Spiritual Instruction; with the Sacred Text in the Common Version and a Revision made by Rev. Dr. Hackett and Rev. Dr. Bliss, in opposite columns. It is published by the American Bible Union of New York, and the American Baptist Publication Society of Philadelphia. It takes up the history from the death of Moses and proceeds through the conquest of Canaan and settlement of the Israelites, until the king was appointed to reign over them according to their request.

The comments and suggestions given in the Notes render the work invaluable to Sunday School Teachers and all who are giving their attention to the teachings of these Lessons.

What a mercy it is that our ministers do not very frequently remove from one place to another, or we should soon have a rebellion on the part of a large portion of our readers who are unacquainted with the places from which they remove. If their valedictory addresses were all published. We do not, like some of our contemporaries, entirely denounce such manifestations of kind feeling, and refuse to publish them, but we wish them to be as brief as possible so as to occupy as little space as may be.

The transit of Venus across the Sun's disc which took place yesterday is an event of rare occurrence and if the weather was clear enough to allow of observations it will afford the mate-

rials for correcting and completing much of our present astronomical knowledge. Parties were stationed at between seventy and eighty different places in various parts of the world for the purpose of making observation of this phenomena. It will take several months for the completion of the results, but they will then be of great value.

Considerable interest is given to the elections coming off next week in consequence of the relation they are supposed to bear to the education question. We have complied with the request of the Committee of the Presbyterian Synod and the Halifax School Association and have inserted their addresses on the subject. These documents will be read by the electors on both sides.

In addition to this the Methodist ministers in Halifax—eight in number have published an Address which we are requested to copy, as follows:

TO THE FRIENDS OF EDUCATION IN NOVA SCOTIA:

Of the few questions of public interest and importance left to the disposal of the Provincial Assembly, the most vital perhaps is that of Education.

In the Dominion Parliament the famous Costigan Resolutions were moved, it will be remembered, for the purpose of wresting from the Province of New Brunswick the control of their public educational system.

The indignation excited by that audacious and disloyal attempt to interfere with constitutional action, by the Local Legislature, found expression at the polls; and by overwhelming majorities, in almost every section of the province, at the recent election, the question was triumphantly settled.

The ecclesiastical policy, which, emanating from the Vatican, has produced distrust and dissension in the most liberal and progressive countries on both sides of the Atlantic, now threatens difficulty and disturbance in this ordinarily peaceful Province of Nova Scotia. It was distinctly shadowed forth in the late notorious Globe House manifesto, which, by means of the Press, was scattered broadcast throughout the Maritime Provinces.

Uneasy feeling and unsatisfactory results had for some time existed, in Halifax, under the present administration of education; but influential citizens shrank from the agitation of a subject which might provoke bitter and hostile feeling in the community. The pastoral of the Archbishops challenged public attention and afforded the desired opportunity. It was felt that unless vigilance were exercised and decisive action taken, our condition, though humiliating enough, might soon become worse, and an insufferable evil be extended to every part of the Province. The Halifax School Association was immediately organized.

As the result of exceptional legislation for this city, of intrigue and manipulation, possible under the present constitution of the Educational Board, large and imposing buildings, paid for and used for public schools, are for all essential purposes Roman Catholic institutions—taxes are levied and disbursed to the annual amount of \$60,000 or \$70,000; but in the taxation citizens have no direct representation and over which they have no control,—the whole system of education in this important city depends upon a number of men having no immediate accountability to the people and certainly not selected upon the principle of educational fitness—teachers are employed and classified without being required to compete for class certificates, in the prescribed examinations. Salaries are paid, according to the highest scale, to teachers without proper certificates, not for their personal benefit, but for the advantage of the Roman Church. Several Roman Catholic teachers are employed in schools attended by Protestant children, but no Protestant teacher is employed in public schools under Roman Catholic control. Appeals have been made to the Government and to the Legislature to put Halifax, in regard to the public school system, upon an equality with the other school districts of the Province.

This moderate and reasonable appeal has been refused. To no section and to no class of the citizens could it work an injustice. Roman Catholics would be upon a level with Protestants; and, in proportion to their number, which is very large, would have equal and full representation; but the effect of this constitutional reform would be to secure for the Board of Administration an element beyond the reach of ecclesiastical management.

We ask only that the Provincial Act, in its integrity, should apply to Halifax, and we believe that we are justified in appealing upon this question to every constituency in the country. To conserve, widen, and perpetuate the advantages of Free Education for the entire Province, is the sacred and imperative duty of every intelligent and independent elector.

The action of our own Conference, as published in the Minutes of 1873, fully warrants, we are assured, and authorizes this appeal to the members and adherents of our own church.

In the contest between party—government and opposition—and in regard to any political issues, Local or Provincial, we do not desire in the slightest manner to interfere. Against any political construction which may be put upon this appeal, we record a decided protest.

Education we believe to be the most vital question at the present time to be dealt